

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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July 29, 2003

FROM: **MICHAEL A. RAMOS**
District Attorney

SUBJECT: **APPROVE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE CITIZENS' OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) PROGRAM EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR FY 2003-04.**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the District Attorney's Office COPS Program expenditure plan for FY 2003-04

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On August 20, 1996, the Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to implement the COPS Program pursuant to Government Code Sections 30061 et. seq. The Program requires the County to establish a Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund (SLESF) to be expended exclusively for county jails, police, sheriff, and district attorney services. The program requires the Sheriff, as the lead agency, to submit a request each year to the Board of Supervisors specifying COPS Program needs. In addition, the California Government Code requires all recipient agencies to submit an approved expenditure plan from the governing board of that agency.

The Office of the District Attorney receives approximately \$610,000 per year in COPS funding. The monies are used to fund staff prosecuting and investigating gang-related cases countywide. Cases assigned to staff in the gang units involve violent crimes and gang-related complexities. Typically caseloads are reduced as compared to general prosecution due to the built in complexity of the cases (i.e. uncooperative witnesses, identification of gangs and their membership, etc.). The FY 2003-04 expenditure plan provides for continued funding of 4.5 FTE Deputy District Attorneys; .75 FTE DA Investigator I and .5 FTE Secretary I (see attachment).

The District Attorney has traditionally dedicated general fund resources towards this program since this is a highly effective public safety approach. The District Attorney's Office will continue to staff the COPS program at the same level as in prior year and will absorb the MOU increases by closely monitoring and curtailing services and supplies expenditures in this and other areas of operation.

This action requests approval of the District Attorney's expenditure plan for FY 2003-04.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Scott M. Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on July 16, 2003 and the County Administrative Office (Mario Lara, Administrative Analyst) on July 16, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: COPS funding for the District Attorney's office is approximately \$610,000. Appropriation and revenue and match related to the program are included in the adopted FY 2003-04 budget.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): ALL

PRESENTER: James B. Hackleman, Assistant District Attorney (909) 387-6601

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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